

### Inheritance

**Nested Classes** 



#### **Nested Classes**

- A class defined within another class
  - Not defined in a separate \*.java file
  - Only accessible through outer class
- Can improve maintainability
  - Reduces number of files (but not number of classes)
  - Groups together related classes into one file

#### **Nested Classes**

- Increases encapsulation/information hiding for small classes used by only one other class
- Can combine composition, inheritance relationships
  - Outer class has-a inner class
  - Inner class is-a other class

## Types of Nested Classes

- Inner Class
  - A non-static nested class dependent on a specific instance of the outer class
- Static Nested Class
  - A static nested class that is independent of an instance of the outer class

#### **Nested Class Initialization**

- Inner Class
  - Must have instance of outer class to initialize
  - Outer outer = new Outer();
    Outer.Inner in = outer.new Inner();
- Static Nested Class
  - May initialize without an instance of outer class
  - Outer.Static in = new Outer.Static();

#### Outer Member Access

- Inner Classes
  - May access private instance members of outer class
  - May access private class members of outer class
- Static Nested Classes
  - May not access any instance members of outer class
  - May access any class members of outer class

## **Anonymous Classes**

- A nested, local class without an explicit name
  - Declared, defined, and instantiated at same time
  - Specify one class or interface to extend/implement
  - Give implementations of abstract methods
- Used for classes defined and used only once
  - Commonly used to create Comparator objects
  - Commonly used in multithreading

http://docs.oracle.com/javase/tutorial/java/javaOO/anonymousclasses.html

## Example Anonymous Class

```
1 Runnable r = new Runnable() {
2  public void run() {
3    System.out.println("Hello!");
4  }
5 }; // note semicolon!
```

http://docs.oracle.com/javase/8/docs/api/java/lang/Runnable.html

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